



FOOTBALL

JERSEY FOOTBALL LEAGUE 0,

WYCOMBE WANDERERS 3

J.F.L. RARELY THREATEN SERIOUSLY

Carter injured in Island side debut



Wycombe's KEITH SEARLE (third from left) gives J.F.L. 'keeper BARRY BREUILLY no chance with a close-range shot to open the scoring. Watching are home players BARRY THORP (left), DAVID BLAKE (No. 5) and ALAN VENTON (right)

Picture by Bob Ritchie

THIS was a very comfortable victory at Springfield yesterday afternoon for Wycombe Wanderers, amateur Cup semi-finalists this season and leading contenders for the thmian League championship. Had their finishing matched their opportunity in all other respects — running off the ball, finding the spaces and in midfield and approach play — the visitors could have more than doubled their eventual goal-tally.

The local side were rarely a serious threat and with interest usually deteriorating and a cold and prevailing, many of the 720 so paid for admission were coming away long before the 1.

It was two minutes after Carter's departure, and with Browne still not on as substitute, that Wycombe opened the scoring.

Geoff Anthony, a Welsh international, slipped a pass out to John Hutchinson on the left and the former Wealdstone front-runner crossed for Keith Searle — also once of Wealdstone — to net from point-blank range.

The Wanderers continued to keep up the pressure. The locals could not settle. Their defence was uncertain, although Barry Thorp was strong throughout.

In the 19th minute the J.F.L. fell further behind. A good move up the right flank saw the ball passed to Bernie Bremer, who gained an Amateur Cup winners' medal with Wealdstone in 1966 — and the latter put Hutchinson in possession. Hutchinson found the net with a high shot — apparently misjudged by the usually so reliable Barry Breuille.

Little trouble

The Wanderers were in command in midfield and impressed with their progressive play. The locals occasionally spluttered away . . . Jeff Ruellan, good in the air, tried a long shot but without troubling opposing 'keeper John Maskell and later Dave Huson managed to get in a drive only to see Maskell save competently.

The J.F.L. were guilty of keeping the ball far too close and seemed lacking in ideas. Alan Venton, playing very deep, was doing well but he was too far back to be effective to his forwards.

Generally, the visitors were taller and this stood them in

good stead. It was still Thorp showing up the best in the home defence although skipper Mick Le Louarn was tackling well.

Mainly functioning as a 4-3-3 unit, the Wanderers had two speedy men up front in Searle and Larry Pritchard, the latter with 26 caps being one of the four internationals who played in the game for the visitors — the others being the captain, Ted Powell — with 28 England caps — Anthony and Tony Horseman, who came on as a substitute in the second half for Hutchinson.

The teams crossed over with Wycombe 2-0 ahead.

No thrust

It was chiefly the same pattern after the break — the Wanderers controlling but still not producing any lethal final thrust. There were many anxious moments in the home goal area with Breuille punching away more than is his usual wont.

Alan Venton was constantly trying to get Roy Marett away on the left. But when Roy did get possession he was thwarted by the experienced opposing defenders, and generally ran into trouble.

Huson, on the opposite wing, saw little of the ball. Towards the end he had a couple of shots at goal — one sending the ball just over. There was hardly an occasion when the J.F.L. looked like scoring and with the opposition back so much on attack but not producing "devil" in their final attempts the exchanges roused no enthusiasm.

However, just when all the signs were that it would end 2-0 in favour of Wycombe came the final incident which resulted in their gaining a third goal.

Penalty

The visitors' No. 4, skipper Powell, guided a long ball up to Bremer. Timmy Browne handled. After referee Denis Hinsley had consulted with linesman John Riseborough, who had flagged immediately, he awarded a spot-kick to the Wanderers which Horseman easily converted. That was in the 89th minute.

Jersey Football League. — Breuille; Le Louarn, Carter, Thorp, Blake, Proffit, Venton, Huson, O'Boyle, Ruellan (J.), Marett.

Reserves: Osment, Buesnel, Browne and Sands.

Wycombe Wanderers. — Maskell; Blunt, Gale, Powell, Faulkner, Baker, Bremer, Hutchinson, Pritchard, Searle, Anthony.

Reserves: Horseman, O'Brien and Rundle.

Scorers: Hutchinson, Searle and Horseman (penalty).

Referee: D. Hinsley.

Linesmen: A. Moignard and J. Riseborough.

Tonight's game

Wycombe play another Jersey Football League representative XI at Springfield this evening, kick-off 7.30, for the Visitors Trophy. The J.F.L. have been forced to make changes to their originally selected side. Kerr Cameron comes in for Mick Cooper and Johnny James for Jeff Carter.

ALL CUSTARD reports

With the exception that Jeff Carter was brought in for the injured Dicky Spink, the home team was identical to that which defeated Alderney 11-0 in last month's Muratti semi-final. But was an unfortunate debut for Carter as an Island team as, just ten minutes after the start, he was injured. He came off with blood streaming from his nose, which had been split in a mêlée, and he was taken to hospital for a gash to be stitched.

Timmy Browne came on as the substitute.